WHEREAS; peroxisomal disorders are rare, and often terminal, genetic disorders that affect all major organ systems of the body and are typically diagnosed soon after birth; and

WHEREAS; it is estimated that one in 50,000 births are affected by a peroxisomal disorder, and early identifying symptoms in newborns include low muscle tone, seizures, deafness, blindness, feeding difficulties, skeletal abnormalities, and developmental delays; and

WHEREAS; peroxisomal disorders are inherited autosomal recessive gene disorders, meaning both parents are carriers of the genetic condition but, often, do not know until a child is born presenting symptoms; and

WHEREAS; as a spectrum disorder, symptoms range from mild to severe, and children with a severe diagnosis – including Zellweger syndrome, the most severe of the peroxisomal disorders – have a tragically short life-expectancy of no more than six months; and

WHEREAS; we recognize the impact that living with a rare genetic condition has on the lives of affected children and their families, who must learn to navigate their healthcare needs while balancing grief and loss; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in honoring and supporting all families who are currently fighting a peroxisomal disorder or who have lost a child to the condition;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 5, 2020, as

PEROXISOMAL DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 1st day of October 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State